

The Polk County Observer

(TWICE-A-WEEK)

DALLAS, POLK COUNTY, OREGON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 1917

(THE HOME PAPER)

NO. 95

ERS HOLD SPUDS

UNABLE TO SECURE MAINDER OF CROP.

Due To 2c. Per Pound But Rely on Scarcity For Further Advances.

There are at a standstill in Polk. There are seven buyers in and some fifteen carloads of, but farmers are holding for advances in price. The figure is \$2 per hundred.

15 per cent of the potatoes in this vicinity during the weeks' stampede are stored, Pedee and Airline. The are unable to secure the railroad company has refused to receive spuds at eastern points because they the cold weather would while on the company's few cars have been shipped and but none lately. One buyer has asked for two for Portland shipping and the risk himself. The cannot be liable for damages unless they are shipped standard fruit cars.

Report business as dull. Hard to conceive of any rich when there are seven competing for some 15 carloads, when most of the produce the firm conviction that it go up still further. It is, that the fellow who is suffer the hardships of the and dig into the more riches of the county, is the who will be able to buy spuds.

The present market condition is a gamble. Farming on the general scarcity of product and the strong bring them further advance even hope for \$4 a hundred, and buyers especially, drop as soon as the car allows them to move the stored. The Idaho crop to become a factor in the before long.

entry around Ridgefield, experiencing much the and price conditions in Dallas. Buyers are active and the \$2 a hundred. One bought over \$30,000 worth in Clarke county; he has 90 cars.

man editorially commenting on the potato situation in recently as follows: "Succeeding years invariably a result of periods of high prices, because of to sell everything reserving only the poorer potatoes, or whatnot, for planting. It is a hard system and it causes good farming; but human that it is and the remedy point out than to en-

fact is that it may yet point where we will be plant our potato seed along with an ex-acting next year. Failure to for our own needs serious matter, for there food that there will be which we can draw to the deficiency, and then higher than ever. In the quality of next season to be below par of past neglect."

was written from the viewpoint and the commercial. Prices are likely to strain next year unless delineate the fact and available ground to us.

May Play Basketball. may be again taken on school. The team is to more games and the is considering means to on a better financial return high school has games, and the local boys school. soon. The term business consistently the continuance of the same activity, two weeks.

MUSICAL EVENT.

City Fine Will Be Given and Independence.

musical event is by local musicians, and will enlist every in Dallas. The New song in the arm-

ory, has inspired this company of singers to plan for a much more elaborate and meritorious production for Easter Sunday evening.

The musical people of Independence have expressed a willingness to co-operate with Dallas talent and the combined chorus should aggregate at least 75 voices.

D. V. Poling, director, has recommended a production from the pen of a noted French composer, which in every way is worthy of the best efforts of local talent. It is expected that rehearsals will soon begin on Florio's "Easter King," and Dallas and Independence will be privileged to hear as fine choral work as any section of the state.

The sing will not in any way interfere with the regular easter services conducted by the churches of the two cities.

PRODUCE BUSINESS LAUNCHED

Simkins and Larkins Locate in Skating Rink Building.

Lloyd Simkins and John Larkin, former progressive farmers of the Spring Valley district, have leased the skating rink building at the corner of Jefferson and Oak streets, and will conduct a produce business there, paying cash for farm products.

The firm has an auto truck and will make regular trips through the country tributary to Dallas, collecting eggs, chickens, veal and pork. The partners may branch out and handle other produce in the near future.

HAS BEST GAS IN STATE

CASS RIGGS LIGHTS HOUSE AND COOKS WITH IT.

Gas Is Odorless, Smokeless and Gives Bright, White Light; Discovered While Digging For Water.

Cass Riggs, who lives near Rickreall, has the best natural gas in the state of Oregon, according to a Los Angeles expert who tested the product recently. The gas is odorless and smokeless and gives a brilliant white light.

Mr. Riggs has taken advantage of his discovery and lights every room in his house with gas. He also uses it to cook with and says there hasn't been a fire in his cook-stove since April. The gas can be brought to a heating temperature in five minutes.

The gas was first discovered 25 years ago when Mr. Riggs dug a well for water. He detected a little gas when he had gone down 50 feet, but there was not enough to cause him serious thought. Sixteen years ago he installed a pump, however, and has been using the gas ever since. In 1911 Mr. Riggs' son became enthusiastic over the possibilities of the natural gas and persuaded his father to install the lighting system.

The gas collects under the pressure of the water, which is pumped off and used to water stock. The pressure is approximately 12 pounds. Mr. Riggs has not attempted to capitalize his gas beyond his personal uses, but is confident that there is sufficient gas present to supply at least his neighbors. He doesn't have the capital to invest in an extensive system but expects some day to co-operate in utilizing the superfluous gas.

The farm is situated four miles from Rickreall, between Rickreall and McCoy and Mr. Riggs extends a hearty invitation to the public to inspect the little plant he has installed.

SOME ACTIVITY IN HOPS.

A Few Raisers Are Contracting 1917 Crop at Around 11 Cents.

There has been a little activity in hops locally during the past week. Buyers for Portland houses are making occasional visits to local growers and in some instances have made contracts for the 1917 crop. At the present from 11 to 11 1/4 cents is the prevailing price.

John Middleton has contracted his hops to Kleber, Wolg and Netter of Portland, through Harvey Hinkle, their field representative, who was a visitor here this week. He will receive 11 1/4 cents for from 50 to 60 acres of them. John Greenwood, who is running the Grant and Co. yard, has contracted his crop to R. A. Williams of Portland at 11 cents. Others in this district will probably contract in the near future as it is figured there is some profit in hops at 11 cents, and it is a question if more could be realized on the open market despite the fact that many yards which are being closed up will diminish the Oregon supply next fall.

HAS LEAD IN CLUB WORK

POLK BOYS AND GIRLS TAKE MOST INTEREST.

Rickreall Organizes First Pig Club; Girls Learn Sewing, Baking and Canning.

Boys and Girls in Polk county are taking more interest in the club work than the boys and girls of any other county in the state, according to Leonard J. Allen, who is traveling in the interest of the work for the Oregon Agricultural college.

Mr. Allen helped organize a pig club at Rickreall Tuesday. Potato, corn and poultry clubs are popular among the boys and the girls are learning to sew, bake and can fruits and vegetables, under the 10 lesson plan. The girls' work is in charge of Miss Cowgill, but is not yet as far advanced in Polk county as are the boys' clubs.

"The United States National Bank of Salem has set aside a fund of \$1,000 to loan to worthy boys and girls of Marion and Polk counties who live in and tributary to Salem, with which to buy pigs for the pig club work," said Mr. Allen while here this week. "This step was recently made through the efforts of W. W. Eyre, vice-president of the bank, who is a great lover of boys and girls and who has been encouraging the pig club work for some time."

The bank proposes to take the personal note of members for one year at a low rate of interest, for sums not to exceed \$10. The money is to be invested in a pure bred pig and the note paid from the proceeds. In cases where a large sum is required the bank will very probably arrange to increase the amount, as Mr. Eyre believes that the very best obtainable pigs are the ones for the boys.

The objects of the pig club work are to teach the young people the necessity of live stock on the farms and the best methods of managing and caring for the animals. They are taught that it is possible to grow their pigs very largely on cheap feeds and that it is more profitable to have well-bred pigs. Crop growing of different kinds such as corn, clover, rape, peas, etc., is a part of the work so that each boy may raise the necessary feed instead of buying.

A study is made of diseases of hogs and the members are instructed in swine judging and selecting for market and breeding purposes. One of the greatest benefits the young people derive from the work is the business principles, the idea of buying a pig, growing it and later selling it or its offspring, so as to make a profit.

The boys' and girls' club work is done through the co-operation of the agricultural college and the United States government. H. C. Seymour, a former resident of Dallas and once superintendent of Polk county schools, is leader of the movement in Oregon. The extension department of the college, under whose supervision the work is carried on, aim to cover the state every two months. Valley towns are fortunate in being close to Corvallis; they get more visits. Mr. Allen, who was in Dallas Tuesday, has been working in the coast counties and through the valley for some time. He is about to start for a six weeks' tour of eastern Oregon.

It is the intent of the college to give boys and girls information and instruction along lines of industrial and agricultural work that they like. They are taught the most modern methods, and fairs and other competition are offered to promote the greatest efforts for improvement. The boys and girls who win the most honors at the state fair each year are given a free summer course of two weeks at Corvallis.

Fred S. Crowley, superintendent of schools in Polk county, is taking an active co-operative interest in the work. He accompanied Mr. Allen in his trip through the West Salem district, Tuesday. They visited schools at Lincoln, Spring Valley, Rickreall, Eola and other places.

Work 12 Hours Daily on Tax

Deputies Holman and Nichols are working 12 hours a day on the tax extension rolls to get them out on time. They were delayed a week by the necessity of going over the Falls City list twice, but expect to get the rolls in the hands of the sheriff for collection by February 1, the regular date, by working the long hours.

DALLAS WINS HANDILY

MT. ANGEL IS OUTCLASSED; SCORE IS 46 TO 4.

Woods Is Star; Visitors Unable to Break Up Local's Teamwork or Pierce Their Defense.

(By H. K.)

The basketball game Wednesday night was all Dallas. The smaller and more inexperienced Mt. Angel college team was unable to cope with the wonderful teamwork, defense and unerring basket shooting of Woods, Fenton, Boydston, Shaw and Matheny.

Laird Woods had a "bum" evening; the best he could do was 10 baskets, seven of which were registered in the last half. Seven is some baskets for one half of a basketball game. Boydston was not far behind with seven counters and Fenton and Shaw grabbed three each.

The Mt. Angel bunch won the respect of the fans with the good sportsmanship displayed. They battled right along until the last whistle never letting up an instant and never "crabbing" at opponent or referee. They had an alibi, which they did not publicly voice, however. The floor was 100 per cent more slippery than they had ever played on and they were unable to play the game they are really capable of. Alibis are alibis but this one listens better than the average.

Shanedding, the stocky right forward of the visitors, is the mainstay of their team. He scored the only two baskets credited to Mt. Angel. Pashek, at guard, showed ability in the floor-work department but was unable to cover the shifty Woods. It seemed almost necessary to hold both of Laird's hands to keep him from locating the hoop.

Mt. Angel was forced to resort to the long shot style of offense, which was very ineffective. Shaw or Matheny usually got the rebound and started the old Dallas teamwork going. Five or six passes and a man would get loose under the basket; zip, and two more points would be added to the already lopsided score.

Only two fouls were called, one on Matheny and one on Woods. Center Classic of the college team missed both free throws.

Dallas	Mt. Angel
Woods (20)	F Shanedding (4)
Boydston (14)	F Spear
Fenton (6)	C Classic
Shaw (6)	G Pashek
Matheny	G Kasperberg
	Spare
	Brost

"CHIC" WELLS NOT GUILTY.

E. T. Colsen's "Assault and Battery" Charge Fails to Stick.

"Chic" Wells was found not guilty of assault and battery on E. T. Colsen by the jury in Police Judge Gregory's court yesterday afternoon. The fight occurred Saturday night in front of J. C. Hayter's book store.

Attorneys G. O. Holman and Joseph Helgeson for the defense showed that the fight had been brewing for some time as a result of a protracted enmity between Wells and the Colsen family and that Wells was justified in hitting Colsen because he had called him a vile name and dared him to hit.

The evidence brought out the following story of the meeting, Saturday night. Wells bumped into Colsen in passing him on Main street; Colsen said to his wife and daughter who were with him: "It's a wonder that young man wouldn't take the whole side walk." Wells turned and said he would if he wanted to. When Wells got to the hallway by Staffin's drug store he had doffed his coat and told Colsen that he had heard Colsen had called him a vile name. Colsen said he didn't remember it, but he wouldn't have missed it far if he did. He then stepped up and told Wells to hit him and he would "eat him up." Wells hit him several times.

The jury was out about fifteen minutes and returned with the verdict acquitting Wells.

BABY STAL TOMORROW NIGHT.

Little Helen Marie Osborne Leads in "Shadows and Sunshine."

Baby Helen Marie Osborne, christened "Little Mary Sunshine" with the approval of her many thousands of admirers all over the land, returns to the screen in "Shadows and Sunshine," the Gold Rooster play which will be seen here at the Ophium theater on Saturday.

They say there are no short cuts to fame and fortune. Baby Marie,

if her tender age of four had given her the power of argument, could tell you differently. One five-reel picture brought her both, and her chubby dimpled face is enshrined in the hearts of the multitudes whom she has charged with her extraordinary talent.

In "Shadows and Sunshine" she was again directed by Henry King of Balboa, who has shown rare talent in bringing out the best there is in the baby star. Particularly notable is her entire freedom from self-consciousness before the camera. The supporting cast includes R. Henry Grey, Daniel Gilfether, Mollie McConnell and Lucy Peyton.

On Sunday and Monday nights Irene Fenwick will appear in "A Coney Island Princess," with Owen Moore for the first time on the Paramount program.

PLAN MODERN POULTRY SHOW

Expert Unable to Attend Annual Meeting But Will Co-operate.

C. C. Lamb, of the poultry department at the Oregon Agricultural college, will be unable to attend the annual meeting of the Polk County Poultry association, according to a letter received by the secretary, Mrs. Winnie Braden.

The local association had hoped to have Mr. Lamb present to aid in planning for a poultry show, but he had another engagement that evening and wrote that he will be glad to come to Dallas at some future time.

WANT CONCRETE BRIDGE

KIRKPATRICK TELLS COURT: CONCRETE OR NOTHING.

Marion County Favors Steel Bridge; No Agreement Reached at Meeting Yesterday.

Judge E. C. Kirkpatrick told the Marion county court yesterday that the people of Polk county wanted a concrete bridge and that he stood for concrete or nothing. "Salem can settle the bridge site for itself; we won't hold up construction on that but we positively want a concrete bridge," said the judge.

The Marion county court has never decided definitely on any type of bridge, but wants a bridge heavy enough for all traffic. Judge Bushey said: "We put it up to the state highway commission as to the type of bridge and they decided the only thing to do was to build a steel bridge and therefore this court favors a steel bridge." The Salem officials think that the structure of the river bottom is not able to support a concrete bridge.

Judge Kirkpatrick said he was guided more by the wishes of Polk county and the examples of the railroads of today, who are building concrete bridges, almost entirely. He said: "The people of Polk county are not married to the state highway commission; the commissioners are steel bridge architects and know little about cement bridges." The Polk county court does not favor a steel bridge encased in cement, either. They are guided here by Engineer Purcell, backed by such bridge builders as Mr. Benson and Mr. Young.

No definite agreement was reached at the meeting yesterday. Judge Kirkpatrick is firm in his decision to hold out for a cement bridge. He said: "The people of my county have expressed a desire for a cement bridge, and I shall stand for a cement bridge until they instruct me otherwise by a vote in mass meeting." The joint meeting adjourned yesterday that both courts may look further into the matter. A meeting will be called early next week, it is thought.

Grange Meets At Monmouth.

An all day session of the Polk county Pomona grange will be held at Monmouth tomorrow, beginning at 10:30 in the morning. Important matters affecting legislation will be discussed at the forenoon session and installation and a program will be the centers of attraction in the afternoon. C. J. Hurl, market master of Lane county, will be the chief speaker and installing officer.

Toner Shoots Perfect Score.

A. F. Toner shot the first perfect score Tuesday night since the local Gun club changed targets and lengthened the distance to 75 feet. H. A. Webster captured the high average again, with 99. Robert Lee scored 88, Oscar Phillips 88, A. F. Toner 87, Henry Stump 87, F. J. Craven 82, C. G. Coad 80, and Riley Craven 69.

WILL TEACH PRUNING

FRUIT GROWERS ARRANGE FOR DEMONSTRATION FEB. 1.

Frank Harris Farm in North Dallas to be Scene of Exhibition Work By Expert.

The Polk County Fruit Growers' association has arranged for a pruning demonstration, which will be given by Professor Brown of Oregon Agricultural college February 1, on the Frank Harris farm in North Dallas.

Professor Brown will give a lecture at ten o'clock in the morning, and the association wishes orchardists who are confronted with any problems to present them at that time. At one o'clock in the afternoon the outdoor demonstration at the Harris farm will be given. Exhibition pruning of apples, cherries, pears, walnuts and prunes will be performed. Frank V. Brown, secretary of the Fruitgrowers' organization has extended a hearty invitation to all to attend both sessions.

At the annual meeting held recently the association planned to bring in the best authorities in the state at various times to help the members and local fruitgrowers to solve their problems, and this "pruning bee" is the first step in the plan, this year.

The association is also co-operating with the state prune growers' association to work for the standardization of the prune and is glad to take up the problems of any fruit-grower in the county. O. A. C. recognizes the organization, where it could not the individual. However, the association will bring in the experts and have them visit the farms whenever it is possible.

A good per cent of the fruitgrowers in Polk county belong to the organization but the present officers are anxious to increase the number. While no fruitgrower is barred from the benefits of the organization, still the members feel that all should belong.

MOTHER BEGS FOR CHILD.

Mollie Bowers Kidnaped Her Daughter, Marion, Here in 1914.

Pretty Mollie Bowers that was, now Mrs. John Bass, pleaded tearfully before Judge Tazewell yesterday for the custody of her daughter, Marion Bowers, aged 6.

When a court order took from Mrs. Bowers her child a year ago, because of the intemperate life of the mother, Mollie Bowers staged a sensational kidnapping and fled with her brother, Cecil Stump, into Washington with Marion. She was traced and brought back to Portland and the daughter placed with a private family.

Next Thursday, by which time the court will have had opportunity to inquire more definitely not only into the life of the young woman, but also of that of her husband, to see if a clean moral bill can be produced, Judge Tazewell will decide whether the mother is a proper person to have her child.

Mrs. Bass said yesterday that she had obeyed the advice of former Juvenile Judge Cleaton, which was that she should settle down, possibly marry, and provide proper surroundings for a youngster if she ever expected to have her daughter again.

Mrs. Bass is married, is living in an attractive cottage on Stevens street and has provided a model home for the daughter should the child be returned to her, it is asserted.

The legal battle over the child began before Judge Gatens, then a juvenile judge, three years ago, when the daughter was made a ward of the court after her father and mother had appeared and made charges that each was incompetent to care for her. The child was taken to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Milton Grant in Dallas, Polk county.

The kidnapping of January 22, 1916, from Portland, was the second time little Marion was taken by her mother. The first was in 1914, when Mrs. Bowers and her brother hired an automobile and seized the child in the yard of the Grants in Dallas and took her to Salem before deputy sheriffs from Polk county apprehended her.—Oregonian.

To Decide on Booth Case Feb. 5.

When the circuit court convenes in McMinnville February 5 for the Yamhill county session, the Booth-Branson murder retrial will be definitely located. Rumor has it that Dallas will be chosen, but no formal action has been taken.